

Type in the Comisión de Botánica de la Secretaría de Agricultura y Fomento del Departamento del Valle del Cauca, collected on the right bank of the Río San Juan below El Queremal, between kilometers 52 and 53, basin of the Río Digna, Department of El Valle, Colombia, altitude 1,500 meters, March 19, 1947, by J. Cuatrecasas (No. 23875).

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A NEW SPECIES OF SPHENODESME

Harold N. Moldenke

*SPHENODESME CLEMENSORUM* Moldenke, sp. nov.

Frutex scandens; ramulis gracilibus minute puberulis; petiolis 8--12 mm. longis adpresso-puberulis; laminis chartaceis ellipticis obtuse breviterque acuminatis integris, ad basin acutis, supra glabris nitidisque, subtus dense albo-tomentellis; bracteis 6 purpureis oblanceolatis utrinque brunneo-puberulis acutis, ad basin attenuatis.

Scandent shrub; branches slender, minutely brown-puberulent; nodes obscurely annulate; principal internodes 3--5 cm. long; leaves decussate-opposite; petioles slender, 8--12 mm. long on mature leaves, densely appressed-puberulent; blades chartaceous, dark-green and brunnescent above in drying, whitish beneath, elliptic, 6.5--8 cm. long, 2.5--4 cm. wide, bluntly short-acuminate at apex, acute at base, entire, glabrous and shiny above, very densely appressed-tomentellous with whitish hairs beneath; midrib very slender, impressed above, prominent and puberulent beneath; secondaries 5--7, very slender, arcuate-ascending, indiscernible above, prominulous beneath; veinlet reticulation sparse, indiscernible above, prominulous beneath; inflorescence racemiform, 15 or more cm. long, borne singly in the upper axils, often with a few pairs of greatly reduced leaves toward the base; peduncles very slender, 2--3 cm. long, densely brown-puberulent, tetragonal; pedicels filiform, to 15 mm. long, densely brown-puberulent; bracts dull-purplish when fresh, 6 in number, borne in 2 groups of 3 each, oblanceolate, 13--25 mm. long, 4--7 mm. wide, acute at apex, long-attenuate to base, brownish-puberulent on both surfaces, with a distinct midrib and some side-veinlets; calyx campanulate, firm, about 4 mm. long and 2.5 mm. wide, conspicuously longitudinally ribbed, densely white-puberulent, its rim conspicuously 6-lobed, the lobes about 0.5 mm. long, triangular-acute, in fruit enlarged to 12 mm. and 6 mm. wide, with the lobes about 2 mm. long; corolla included or equaling the calyx; stamens barely visible beyond the corolla-mouth; anthers white.

The type of this distinctive species was collected by Joseph and Mary Knapp Clemens in a hill forest at low elevation, Gat, Upper Rejang River, Sarawak, on June 31, 1929, and is no. 5651 (herb. no. 21781), deposited in the Britton Herbarium at the New York Botanical Garden.